

HYMENOPHYLLUM WILSONII HOOKER
(HYMENOPHYLLACEAE) IN
THE IBERIAN PENINSULA

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We found *Hymenophyllum wilsonii* Hooker (SANT 19335) in the basin of the River Seixo de Landoi in the Serra da Capelada (Ortigueira, A Coruña, N.W. Spain; UTM 29TNJ8637; Figure 1). Hitherto, this small fern, which Laínz (1986) included among the *species inquirenda* in the Flora Iberica, in Europe has only been reported in northern and western Great Britain, Ireland, the Faroes, S.W. Norway, N.W. France, Madeira, the Azores and Canaries (Jalas and Suominen, 1972).

The site at which *Hymenophyllum wilsonii* was found is located at an altitude of 350 m a.s.l. on a substrate of serpentines and granulites. According to the chorological typology of Rivas-Martínez (1987), it is in the Eurosiberian region, Cantabro-Atlantic province, Galaico-Asturian sector. The climate, of Atlantic European [V(VI)] type according to Allúe's classification and of temperate maritime type according to Papadakis' (Carballeira et al., 1983), is ideal for this relictual pteridophyte: the annual mean temperature is 12.5°C, the mean annual rainfall 1500 mm, and there are no frosts or summer drought (Giaccobbe dryness index 7). Bioclimatically, this site lies in the hyperhumid ombroclimate hill belt of Rivas-Martínez (1987).

Hymenophyllum wilsonii carpets the wet rocks of the watercourse with *H. tunbrigense* (L.) Sm., in a shady, humid environment engendered by a canopy of *Quercus robur* L. This environment likewise harbors other biogeographically interesting ferns of Macaronesian type according to the biogeographical typology of Pichi-Sermolli et al. (1988), including *Vandenboschia speciosa* (Willd.) Kunkel and, in particular, *Culcita macrocarpa* K. Presl. The latter, with specimens exceeding 4 m in height, spreads almost uninterruptedly along the shaded bank of the river over an area of more than half a hectare, making this population certainly the largest known one in continental Europe.

LITERATURE CITED

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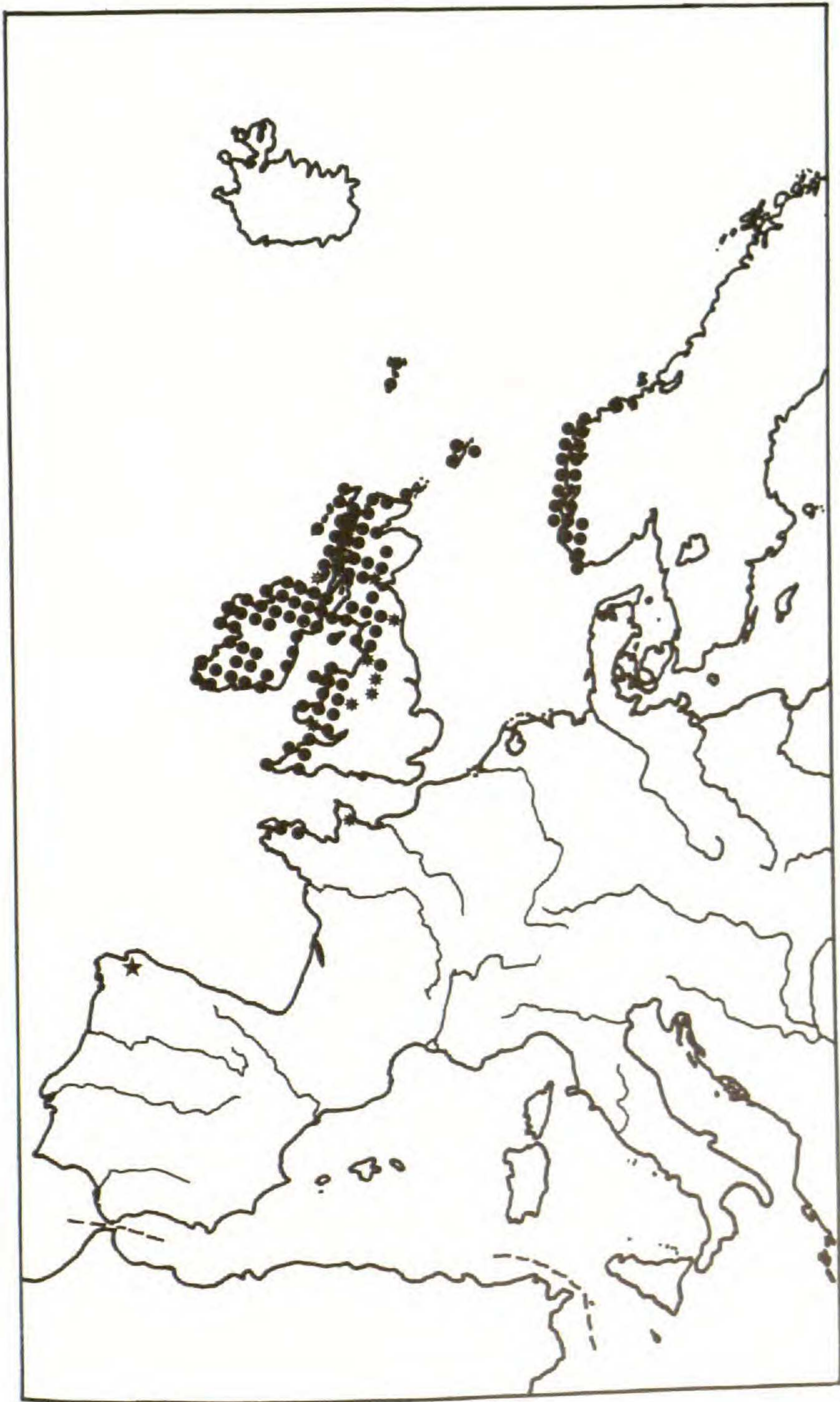


Figure 1. Location of *Hymenophyllum wilsonii* Hooker in continental Europe (Jalas and Suominen, 1972). Native occurrence: ●; probably extinct: ★; new locality: ☆.

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